

CLASSIFICATION

Approved For Release 2002/01/24 : CIA-RDP82-00457R001300870002-7

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY

Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 11 March 1948

SUBJECT

Resignation of Oberspreewerke Specialist;
Current Production Situation

NO. OF PAGES 2 25X1A

PLACE
ACQUIRED

25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO

25X1A

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH
USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

SOURCE

1. A crisis developed in the Oberspreewerke's department for chemical-metallurgical research, after its chief, Ing. Frenz, failed to return from leave. When Frenz called the OSW by telephone and gave notice that he did not intend to return, the Russian manager immediately cancelled all furloughs and recalled all employees currently on leave.
2. It was found that Frenz had taken with him all important data concerning his work, including the final report on the results of his research activities. None of his colleagues was posted on his work, so that there was no one at the OSW who could take his place.
3. Frenz was a specialist on tungsten and molybdenum alloys and on the production of sheet-iron and wire made from such alloys. He also worked on the development of alloys suited for tubes of all kinds, and on the development of pastes. He evolved various kinds of glass, necessary for the production of tubes, which would achieve the proper coefficient of expansion between glass and metal. He also developed "Getterungsverfahren" through which the efficiency of receiving and transmitting valves was greatly improved. Frenz's research also resulted in the production of cathode pastes with special emissivity - - such as Fernico, Fink, Silfos - - having new relative compositions. The factory management attributed the gradual decrease in the numbers of faulty and rejected tubes caused by cracks in the glass, explosions, emissions, etc., to the work of Frenz (the rejected material originally represented 86% of production).
4. Frenz's resignation will undoubtedly have an adverse effect on future Oberspreewerke operations. It is doubtful whether the projected special department for the production of tungsten and molybdenum alloys, and of sheet-iron and wires, which was to be set up under Frenz, can now be established. It is likewise doubtful whether the work in connection with the different processes of evaporation, through which, it is hoped, some metals might be found as substitutes for gold, can be continued. The work entrusted to Frenz in the field of alloys and pastes was redistributed among the chemists Auer, Schoefer, and Gamsa.

* sic, Vitterungsverfahren?

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1A

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

RECEIVED CENTER HEADQUARTERS

Document No.

NO CHANGE in Class. ☐DECLASSIFIED ☐Class. CHANGED TO: TS ☐

DRA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DRA REG. 77 1763

Date: MAY 1978 By: ☐

Approved For Release 2002/01/24

SECRET

CIA-RDP82-

00457R001300870002-7

Next Review Date: 2008

This document is hereby regraded to
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
letter of 16 October 1978 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
Archivist of the United States.

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

6. During a meeting, held shortly before Christmas 1947, the Soviet manager of the Obereprosvet expressed his satisfaction with the production results achieved up to the time. He mentioned that 98% of the planned work had been delivered, and that the delivery date for the remaining 2% of the work program was to be extended to 10 January 1948.
6. Remarks made by Russian officials disclosed that they, too, were under strong pressure as regards the termination of the planned work for 1947. The Soviet representatives proposed on two instances that it be declared, contrary to the actual status of production, that the planned work had been carried through one hundred per cent. The development of "Ignitron" failed through the failure of special welding equipment to be delivered on time. The Soviet representatives proposed, in order to prove that the development work had been finished, to remove the name-plate from an old AEG tube and to replace it with an OSW name-plate. In this way it could be proven to the Moscow agencies that the work had been successful. As to the reconstruction of the 1g11 Telefunken tube, the OSW was advised to report that the planned work had been completed, and to omit sending in documentary proof to that effect. It was thought that the assignment would be finished by the time Moscow had sent in a request for the appropriate data.
7. The Russian supervisory officer, Levit, was replaced by one Akulin in December 1947; no reason was given for this change.

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL